1. NAME
COMMON: Twinsburg Congregational Church

AND/OR HISTORIC: 

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: Twinsburg Public Square

CITY OR TOWN: Twinsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 14 - John Seiberling

STATE: Ohio

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

OWNERSHIP
- Public
- Private
- Both

STATUS
- Public Acquisition: In Process
- Being Considered

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
- Yes: Occupied
- Restricted
- No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Park
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)
- Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: First Congregational Church-United Church of Christ

STREET AND NUMBER: 9050 Church Street

CITY OR TOWN: Twinsburg

STATE: Ohio

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Summit County Building

STREET AND NUMBER: 72 South High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Akron

STATE: Ohio

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: 

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.
This is a frame church building in the Greek Revival Style, with a steeple of three octagonal stages between its base and the spire. The temple-like facade is divided into three bays by two attached Doric columns and two sets of flat pilasters. These elements support a well-proportioned entablature and pediment. The central facade bay has large double doors with a recessed panel above, and the side bays have shuttered windows. The side elevations have four windows with small-pane sash. The steeple was rebuilt in 1856, and the clock was installed in the steeple in 1896.

The interior is less ornamented than the exterior. Where it was originally completely plain, the chancel area was remodeled in 1908, when the chandeliers were added, and again in 1963, when the present arrangement was made, with a divided chancel and a background set piece consisting of four square pilasters and an entablature. The pews are of the typical New England type, with two aisles and divided in the center. The original plaster rosette in the center of the ceiling gives the only touch of original elegance.

A concrete block addition was constructed to the rear of the church as an educational annex in 1954, and considerable general repair has been done over the years, especially in 1949, 1952 and 1963, but the basic design and structure of the church building are unchanged.
In addition to being a superior example of the late colonial New England meetinghouse adapted to the Greek Revival idiom, this building is very significant as the only one remaining on its site of a group of four related buildings. The similar church at Streetsboro has been removed to the Western Reserve Village near Peninsula; a Methodist church identical to the Streetsboro church, which also stood on the Twinsburg Square, has been destroyed; and the Brecksville church, whose facade was identical but whose steeple was different, burned in 1965.

The Twinsburg Congregational Church was organized in 1822. It used a log schoolhouse, and later a frame building on the Public Square. A church and school building was erected in 1832 on the east side of the Square, and existed until 1948. The present church building was erected in 1848 at a cost of $3,300. The steeple was destroyed in a windstorm of 1856 and replaced at a cost of $210.

The architect-builder is unknown. On the basis of the similarity of the facade to that at Brecksville (Doric columns instead of pilasters), and the proximity to Hudson, it has been suggested that the architect-builder was Simeon Porter, the Hudson master builder. On the other hand, the steeple design is so similar to those of the Streetsboro church, designed by James Clark, and the Twinsburg Methodist Church, built by William Clark, that one of the Clarks seems equally likely as the builder.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sarah M. Riley, First Congregational Church-United Church of Christ
Eric Johannesen, "Simeon Porter: Ohio Architect," Ohio History,
Summer 1965, 176.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<td>81° 26' 32&quot;</td>
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<td>SE</td>
<td>0° 00' 00&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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<td>81° 26' 32&quot;</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Eric Johannesen, Preservationist

ORGANIZATION: Western Reserve Historical Society

DATE: Sept. 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 10825 East Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN: Cleveland

STATE: Ohio

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [ ] Local [X]

Name ____________________________

Title ____________________________

DATE ____________________________

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

______________________________
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DATE ____________________________

ATTEST:

______________________________
Keeper of The National Register

DATE ____________________________
Twinsburg Congregational Church

41° 18' 43"
81° 26' 32"
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<tr>
<th>1. NAME</th>
<th>COMMON: Twinsburg Congregational Church</th>
<th>AND/OR HISTORIC</th>
<th>NUMERIC CODE (ASSIGNED BY NPS)</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. LOCATION</td>
<td>STATE: Ohio</td>
<td>COUNTY: Summit</td>
<td>TOWN: Twinsburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>STREET AND NUMBER</td>
<td>Twinsburg Public Square</td>
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**Requirements:** Property boundaries, where required, and north arrow.
Twinsburg Congregational Church

Twinsburg Public Square

Twinsburg

Ohio 039 Summit 153

E. Johannesen

Sept. 1973

Western Reserve Historical Society

Northwest corner of church, showing educational annex to right, looking southeast.

East facade, looking northwest.
May 13, 1974

First Congregational Church-United Church of Christ
9050 Church Street
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

Dear Sirs:

I am pleased to inform you that the Twinsburg Congregational Church, Twinsburg Public Square, Twinsburg, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is a brochure explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Congratulations for recognizing the importance, and the need for, the careful and sensible preservation of Ohio's landmarks. Your farsightedness will surely serve as an example to other individuals and organizations in this state.

Sincerely,

Judith Kitchen
Architectural Historian
Deputy Historic Preservation Officer

JK: dal
enclosure
National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Twinsburg Congregational Church
County: Summit

[ ] Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
[ ] Multiple Property Nomination form
[ ] Photograph(s)
[ ] Photograph(s) (copies)
[ ] USGS map(s)
[ ] USGS map(s) (copies)
[ ] Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
[ ] Correspondence
[ ] Other news clipping

CES: 9/01